

To the FCC:

I find Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election to be reprehensible. In a so-called democracy, the media have an obligation to provide impartial coverage of the news and particularly of political candidates.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when a large corporation exerts control over dozens of local stations, as does Sinclair, we only hear the "news" that benefits the corporation in control. This is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

If the FCC has any commitment whatsoever to fair and open media, it should not allow clear political partisanship and censorship, at the hands of large corporations like Sinclair, to take place on our local airwaves.

Thank you,  
Sarah Coats